

Zambia

COUNTRY:
Zambia

USAID FUNDING PERIOD:
April 2000-March 2003

PROJECT:
Interactive Radio Instruction Program for
Out-of-School Children

USAID AMOUNT:
\$858,675

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATION:
Education Development Center

PURPOSE

For more than 20 years, Interactive Radio Instruction has been used to improve the quality of learning in classrooms. In Zambia, it is delivering basic education to out-of-school children, especially orphans and other vulnerable children, in community learning centers. Interactive Radio Instruction is a collaborative effort among communities, churches, nongovernmental organizations, and community-based organizations, the Ministry of Education's Education Broadcast Services (EBS), Peace Corps, and the Education Development Center. EBS develops and broadcasts the programs and develops supplementary materials; the Ministry of Education trains mentors and provides supervision/monitoring at participating learning centers. Participating communities, churches, and nongovernmental organizations provide the learning center venues, mentors to facilitate the radio broadcasts, radio receivers, and some low-cost materials. Communities also mobilize out-of-school children to attend the learning centers each day. The Education Development Center has trained EBS writers and producers and assisted EBS to develop a training of trainers program for the Ministry of Education resource center staff, who in turn train mentors to run the community-based learning centers.

EBS airs 100 daily 30-minute lessons for grade 1, which follow the Zambian curriculum for mathematics and English. Due to the psychosocial needs of many of the listeners, the radio instruction programs include five-minute segments covering life skill themes (hygiene, nutrition, social values, etc.). The success of

the first 20-week pilot has led to further support to develop programming and support materials for additional primary school levels. More scriptwriters have now been trained and grade 2 programs are being prepared for transmission. HIV/AIDS awareness messages will be included in lessons targeting learners at higher grade levels.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Recent evaluation indicates an average enrollment of 60 learners per center, 47 of whom were still coming each day after 10 weeks, and average gains in language comprehension were between 21.5 and 46 percent;
- Interactive radio in community learning centers was formally adopted by the Ministry of Education as its means for reaching the 50 percent of school-age children not in school;
- 14 teachers were trained as scriptwriters and drafted 200 scripts for grade 2;
- A formal agreement was made with the Zambia Examinations Council to develop criterion-referenced tests for each grade for use in the centers; and
- The number of centers expanded from 22 in the pilot to more than 300 in February 2001.

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES, 2001-2002

- Set up a system to monitor enrollment, attendance, and learning achievement in community learning centers;

- Maintain quality and output of grade 2 broadcasts and mentors' guides;
- Set up a sustainable system of achievement testing in a country where the formal system has examination only for departing 7th graders; and
- Improve communication among the Ministry of Education staff and churches, nongovernmental organizations, and communities.

PROJECT MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- Sample script;
- Sample pages from the mentors' guide; and
- Evaluation data.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- The project can provide expertise for other orphans and vulnerable children projects in technical training in Interactive Radio Instruction.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Education Development Center/Washington:

Michael Laflin (mlaflin@edc.org),

Tel: 202-835-1614

USAID/Zambia:

Kent Noel (knoel@usaid.gov)

USAID/Washington:

Megan Thomas (mthomas@usaid.gov)

COUNTRY:

Zambia

USAID FUNDING PERIOD:

January 2000-December 2001

PROJECT:

Involving Young People in the Care and Support of People Living with HIV/AIDS

USAID AMOUNT:

\$167,548

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATIONS:

Family Health Trust, CARE/Zambia, Population Council/HORIZONS

PURPOSE

This project is an investigative study to determine whether young people who provide care and support to persons living with HIV/AIDS are more likely to practice safer sex behaviors, and if provision of care and support by young people can reduce stigma against orphans and vulnerable children and HIV-infected people. The study will also explore the interaction between young people and orphans. Qualitative research revealed that involving youth in home-based care is acceptable to clients of home-based care programs and the youth themselves. Research also shows that gender roles have been expressed with girls taking responsibility for cooking and housework for persons living with AIDS and boys teaching affected families about risk reduction. Obstacles to youth participating include fear of infection and lingering stereotypes associating AIDS with immorality. The study involves young people, including orphans and vulnerable children, in anti-AIDS and other community-based clubs.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 2 community advisory committees have been formed for the project;
- 60 clubs have been trained in prevention activities;
- 60 club patrons/matrons were trained in facilitation and monitoring of club activities; and
- Baseline data were collected from 800 club members, and were analyzed and disseminated.

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES, 2001-2002

- 12 care and support trainers will be trained;
- 150 club members will be trained in care and support activities for orphans and vulnerable children and people living with HIV/AIDS;
- 3 care and support teams per club will be formed (total of 30 clubs) and linked with households and health service facilities;
- Care and support activities will be evaluated through a follow-on survey; and
- Results will be presented at conferences.

PROJECT MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- A study report of people living with HIV/AIDS;
- Baseline results;
- Training curriculum for prevention activities and youth club management; and
- Care and support training curriculum.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The project can provide expertise for other orphans and vulnerable children projects in the following areas:

- Community mobilization;
- Training young people to care for and support orphans and vulnerable children;
- Reducing stigma for orphans and vulnerable children;
- Provision of youth home-based and community-based care; and
- Mentoring and networking.

CONTACT INFORMATION

HORIZONS:

Eka Williams (ewilliams@pcjoburg.org.za)

CARE/Zambia:

Mangala Chambeshi-Moyo (chambeshi@zm.care.org)

Family Health Trust:

Mwape Chalowaniya (fht@zamnet.zm)

USAID/Washington:

David Stanton (dstanton@usaid.gov)

USAID/Zambia:

Karen Shelley (kshelley@usaid.gov),

Robert Clay (rclay@usaid.gov)

Population Council/HORIZONS website:

www.popcouncil.org/horizons

COUNTRY:

Zambia

USAID FUNDING PERIOD:

December 2000-December 2005

PROJECT:

Africa KidSAFE (Safety, Advocacy, Food, and Education)

USAID AMOUNT:

\$418,000

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATIONS:

Project Concern International and Fountain of Hope

PURPOSE

KidSAFE provides a continuum of care for street children in Lusaka. With ongoing organizational capacity building from Project Concern International, local partner Fountain of Hope has expanded its provision of shelter, food, education, emergency medical care, counseling, skills training, assistance with income generation, and outreach to the growing number of street children. KidSAFE also provides increased support for family tracing and reintegration, and referral and placement of children for whom reintegration is not possible. The project objectives are as follows:

- Reduce the number of street children through family tracing and reintegration;

- Prevent community-to-street drift of at-risk children by equipping eligible primary caregivers with basic business skills and seed money for income generating activities;
- Establish a continuum of care for street children in Lusaka by linking outreach to referral and placement of orphans with no extended family support into foster care or stable, community-based, institutional environments; and
- Provide education and skills training to 2,500 street and out-of-school children.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 2,000 children per day were given food, community schooling, health care, skills training, shelter, and/or family tracing/reintegration (a 500 percent increase in service provision in six months);
- 80 households were reached with income-generation activities through the Mothers' Program;
- Medical services were strengthened with support for basic first aid, emergency medical treatment, and medicines;
- Children were reintegrated with their families, and children were placed with stable, community-based organizations;
- Skills training and employment opportunities were offered to older youths through the development of apprenticeships with local artisans and organizations; and
- Partnerships with community-based organizations and projects in communities outside of Lusaka were established. Fountain of Hope has helped these organizations establish community schools and other programs to meet the needs of children in these communities, in an effort to prevent their migration to Lusaka.

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES, 2001–2002

- Strengthen the organizational capacity of Fountain of Hope;
- Replicate the Fountain of Hope approach through local organizations in five districts;
- Continue to build and strengthen the KidSAFE service-provider referral network;
- Expand web-based marketing and publicity for the KidSAFE program; and
- Explore regional expansion of the KidSAFE approach in neighboring countries.

PROJECT MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- Intake (data collection) form for street children contacted through outreach efforts.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The project can provide expertise for other orphans and vulnerable children projects in the following areas:

- Organizational capacity-assessment and capacity-building;
- Conducting child-centered outreach and support services with street youth;
- HIV/AIDS prevention for street youth;
- Providing social welfare, health, and education services for street youth;
- Running drop-in centers/shelters for street youth;
- Data collection methods for street children;
- Income generation and skills training for mothers;
- Community school development; and
- Partnership development and maintenance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Fountain of Hope:

Rodgers Mwewa (rodgersmwewa@hotmail.com)

Project Concern International:

Barbie Rasmussen, country director
(barbie@zamnet.zm);

Karen Romano, program officer
(kromano@projectconcern.org),
Tel: 858-279-9690

USAID/Washington:

Eric Picard (epicard@usaid.gov),
Martin Hewitt (mhewitt@usaid.gov)

USAID/Zambia:

Robert Clay (rclay@usaid.gov);
Karen Shelley (kshelley@usaid.gov)

Project Concern International website:
www.projectconcern.org

COUNTRY:
Zambia

USAID FUNDING PERIOD:
September 1999-September 2002

PROJECT:
Strengthening Community Partnerships
for Empowerment of Orphans and
Vulnerable Children (SCOPE)

USAID AMOUNT:
\$3 million

IMPLEMENTING ORGANIZATIONS:
CARE International Zambia, Family
Health Trust, and Family Health
International/IMPACT

PURPOSE

SCOPE works in eight districts to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS by strengthening community capacity to address the needs of orphans and other vulnerable children. With technical support and guidance from Family Health International/IMPACT, the project aims to:

- Strengthen district and community committees that address the needs of orphans and vulnerable children;
- Expand the effectiveness and efficiency of local community-based organizations, churches, government ministries, and private sector groups;
- Mobilize, scale up, and strengthen community-led responses and programs; and
- Provide technical assistance to communities and organizations in areas such as HIV prevention, succession planning, community mobilization, and evaluation.

The project works to establish a process of community consultation, involvement, and commitment whereby the local agenda drives the process by providing ongoing assistance for interventions. This multisectoral approach to community mobilization will include an initiative to address household economic security at a community implementation level and small grants to target priority needs of orphans and vulnerable children and their families and to support community efforts to mitigate the impact of HIV.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- District committees for orphans and vulnerable children were established in each district;

- Independent fundraising was initiated by district orphans and vulnerable children committees to support district initiatives;
- 28 existing community orphan and vulnerable children committees were established or strengthened;
- Tool kits to accompany a community mobilization manual, a grants management toolkit, and an organization development manual were developed and disseminated;
- Grants to support community household economic initiatives, community schools, community advocacy, and HIV/AIDS awareness were disbursed;
- A head-of-household baseline survey was completed;
- Quarterly forums on topics of importance to address the needs of orphans and vulnerable children were held;
- Lessons learned on interventions for orphans and vulnerable children were disseminated to other stakeholders throughout the country;
- Links with key institutions and persons in each district and community were established; and
- Gaps and overlaps in services to orphans and vulnerable children by district and community committees were identified and reduced.

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES, 2001–2002

- A community-based household economic strategy will be developed (i.e., community managed revolving funds and savings schemes);

- A psychosocial survey to collect data about children and their guardians will be completed;
- A psychosocial response for orphans and vulnerable children and their caregivers will be developed;
- Advocacy and lobbying work at district and community levels will be implemented;
- An education support strategy for orphans and vulnerable children will be implemented; and
- Linkages between communities and resource support organizations such as the Zambia Social Investment Fund will be developed.

PROJECT MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- Grants management toolkit;
- Head-of-household survey;
- Monitoring and evaluation plan;
- Training guidelines;
- Roles and responsibilities of district orphans and vulnerable children committees;
- Organizational development manual;
- Community mobilization manual;
- Partnership development guidelines; and
- Various reports on stakeholders identification activity reports in the eight districts, minutes from the stakeholders meetings in seven districts, training activity reports, and SCOPE orphans and vulnerable children quarterly workshop reports.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The project can provide expertise for other orphans and vulnerable children projects in the following areas:

- Community mobilization;

- Psychosocial support;
- Formation of district and community multisectoral committees at district and community levels;
- Development of a grant disbursement mechanism;
- Monitoring and evaluation;
- General program planning and management;
- Organization self-assessment;
- Design and implementation of baseline surveys;
- Resource identification and mobilization; and
- Partnership development.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CARE/Zambia:

Mary Simasiku (simasiku@carezam.org);

Tenso Kalala (kalala@carezam.org);

and for project materials contact

Sheila Phiri Kasaro (kasaro@carezam.org),

Tel: 260-1-265901-8, Fax 260-1-265060

FHI Health Trust:

Elizabeth Mataka (fht@zamnet.zm)

FHI/IMPACT/Zambia:

Karen Doll Manda (kdoll@zamnet.zm),

Tel/Fax: 260-1-261-501

FHI/IMPACT/Virginia:

Sara Bowsky (sbowsky@fhi.org),

Tel: 703-516-9779

USAID/Washington:

Alan Getson (agetson@usaid.gov)

USAID/Zambia:

Karen Shelley (kshelley@usaid.gov),

Robert Clay (rclay@usaid.gov)